

Cambridge July 5, 1864.
My Dear Mrs. James.

Many thanks for your most kind letter of the 22^d and for the photograph of Blanche - as handsome a boy as one would wish to see! Alas, our merriment at Yemas - when we have always had the children and your people of the Conner in here - is cut short this year by Mrs. Gray's illness. After recovering from a sad break-down enough to go into Boston and aid Mrs. Long at the Fair - that splendid Fair - she came home to a sick bed, where she still lies. - and as I am nurse as well as botanist, you will excuse me that I have so long neglected to thank you for your letter & contents.

And I have had in other
respects sundry cares and
distractions.

The copies of "Three Weeks
at G." were useful, for Mrs.
Gray wished to distribute
many, to distant friends. She
got several at our Town.

So, you see, we are bound
up for the winter - no
winter vacation for me. For
at best, Mrs. Gray will be able
to get no further than Boston.

As to the nation, I think
all goes well, toward the
end, we hope for - slowly, but
surely.

Please thank Mr. Jones
for me for copies of Lee's
Lectures' papers he
sent me. And many
thanks and much love to
my little Godson, who has

so thoughtfully remembered me.

As to Mrs. Gray, I should
have said, this morn, that
she was fairly better, but
an ill time has come on
since. I hope it will not
last, nor do I consider her
situation at all critical,
yet it gives us anxiety.

Believe me, ever

Yours cordially,

A Gray